

Susan L. Hoff
Notes (3/16/89)
Cherokee County, Kansas
Water Softeners

Phone conversations and contacts:

Anthony LaMasters (Region 7, x228)
-handles maintenance contracts
-suggested talking to Anora Ogletree
-thought the units may belong to contractor

0737

Site:	Cherokee
ID #:	CD 98024/062
Break:	3/1
Other:	Out #5
	3/16-89

Anora Ogletree (Region 7, x233)
-property person
-told me that if the item was purchased by a contractor the paperwork etc. must go through Washington D.C..

Ron McCutcheon (EPA lab, KC *700) (ERCS contracting officer)
?'s for Ron: -if the softeners were purchased under a removal contract are they EPA's property?
-if the units are EPA's, may we leave them on the property (especially the premises of those who do not join the rural water district?
-do we sign over possession or just discontinue maintenance contract?

-the softeners are EPA property purchased by Ridell (he confirmed this with Ridell)
-they should be on the EPA property list
-suggested contacting:
Ron Coleman (FTS 475-9699)
Mary Marshall (FTS 475-8575)
in Washington D.C. because both have worked closely on Cherokee County contracts

Evelyn - Joplin Miracle Water (417-781-8400)
-handle maintenance on softeners

phone conversation: 2/27/89
-to remove one softener unit: approx. \$40
(its necessary to fix piping)
-heavy mineralization from local water will effect the resale value - would need to clean filters before re-using
-could the EPA just move softeners elsewhere (eg. Duenweg, MO.)
-softeners installed: May of 1985 (ie. 3 yrs. old in May of 1989)

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22434
SUPERFUND RECORDS

07405

3/16/89

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Anthony Border: EPA Property Administrator
FTS: 475-7712 (correct #)

-I contacted Mr. Border at the suggestion of Mr. Ron Coleman
Phone conversations:

2/27/89 -told me that Superfund makes it difficult to
relinquish ownership of EPA property because of the federal
mandate to recover every cent possible.

-need to document that the cost of removal, care and
handling exceeds the possible proceeds from resale (unless the
property is shown to be part of an ongoing remedy)

-type of documentation is different for in-house and
contract property

-if the property is on the EPA property list:

-is it part of an ongoing remedy?

-if not: get a cost estimate for removal & resale

-if so: don't need estimate

-must get property owner's permission to "abandon" on
owners property.

-Find out cost estimate for removal, resale value and
whether part of ongoing remedy and call back.

3/6/89 -Told Mr. Border that the softeners in question are
part of continuing remedy because owners are not signing up for
rural water district

-Asked him: what do we do to be allowed to stop
servicing and remove any EPA liability but leave softener on
premises and turn over ownership/responsibility to owner?

-Mr. Border told me:

-he had checked with the lawyers who are drafting
a "simplified procedure" for abandoning property

-he will seek to find out what exactly we need to
do and document by tomorrow

-I told him we only needed to know as much as necessary
for notifying land owners of their options if they do not sign up
for the rural water district (which must be done by the end of
the month), we wouldn't be taking action until next year (1989).

-Asked him to call Alice with information tomorrow.

3/14/89 -Border said he still needed to get specific
information from the lawyers for handing over property as part of
a remedy.

-stated once again: "if the water softeners remain on
the owners property as part of a long-term solution/remedy they
may be turned over to the property owner."